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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/052,163	01/17/2002	Syoichiro Yoshiura	56892 (70904)	3184

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EXAMINER

POKRZYWA, JOSEPH R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

DATE MAILED: 09/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/052,163	Applicant(s) YOSHIURA ET AL.	
	Examiner Joseph R. Pokrzywa	Art Unit 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/17/02 & 5/24/05</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The references listed in the Information Disclosure Statement submitted on 1/17/02 and 5/24/05 have been considered by the examiner (see attached PTO-1449).

Drawings

3. The drawings received on 1/17/02 are acceptable by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. **Claims 14 and 20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

6. **Claims 14 and 20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted elements are:

In *claims 14 and 20*, the claims should recite a limitation that provides at least two portable terminals, as in claim 14, line 3, and in claim 20, line 5, the claims recite of communicating with “either of portable terminals”, which implies that more than one is used. Further, in lines 10-19 of claim 14 and lines 8-24 of claim 20, numerous references to “the portable terminal” are stated, which implies that only a single portable terminal is used. Thus, it is unclear whether two or only one portable devices are used, as the claims are currently worded.

In *claim 20*, the claim is unclear as in line 2 the claim recites “a plurality of electronic apparatuses”, then in line 3, the claim requires “said electronic apparatus”. Which of the plurality of electronic apparatuses is “said electronic apparatus” referring to?

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. **Claims 1-20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakagawa *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,950,148).

Regarding *claim 1*, Nakagawa discloses a method for managing electronic apparatuses (host computer 40) comprising the step of causing the electronic apparatuses to verify identification information of a portable terminal (portable terminal device 30) which demands

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apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 14, lines 10-64), and transmit the apparatus management information in accordance with the portable terminal to the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information (column 14, lines 10-64).

Regarding **claim 2**, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to regularly perform a maintenance management of the electronic apparatus and store the apparatus management information (column 11, lines 10-49).

Regarding **claim 3**, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of causing the portable terminal to transmit the apparatus management information which was acquired to an apparatus management center where apparatus management of a plurality of electronic apparatuses is performed synthetically (column 11, line 10-column 12, line 9).

Regarding **claim 4**, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the latest apparatus management information to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding **claim 5**, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the apparatus management information relating to consumable goods to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management

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information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding *claim 6*, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the apparatus management information relating to the latest operating condition to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding *claim 7*, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 2, and further teaches of causing the portable terminal to transmit the apparatus management information which was acquired to an apparatus management center where apparatus management of a plurality of electronic apparatuses is performed synthetically (column 11, line 10-column 12, line 9).

Regarding *claim 8*, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 2, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the latest apparatus management information to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding *claim 9*, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 2, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the apparatus management information relating to consumable goods to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management

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information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding *claim 10*, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 2, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the apparatus management information relating to the latest operating condition to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding *claim 11*, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 3, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the latest apparatus management information to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding *claim 12*, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 3, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the apparatus management information relating to consumable goods to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding *claim 13*, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 3, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the apparatus management information relating to the latest operating condition to the portable terminal in accordance with

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the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding *claim 14*, Nakagawa discloses an electronic apparatus (host computer 40) comprising apparatus-side communication controlling means (CPU 41, see Fig. 3) for communicating with either of portable terminals (portable device 30 that connects to copying machine 1, as seen in Figs. 3 and 4), the apparatus-side communication controlling means (CPU 41) including inside-apparatus management information storage means for storing the apparatus management information of a main body of the electronic apparatus in plural levels (see Fig. 11, column 14, lines 10-64), identification information storage means for storing identification information to identify the portable terminal of a communicating party (column 14, lines 10-45), apparatus-side controlling means for identifying the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information in the identification information storage means when a demand for the apparatus management information of the electronic apparatus from either of the portable terminals (column 14, lines 10-45), and for transmitting the apparatus management information of the level in accordance with the portable terminal from the inside-apparatus management information storage means (see Fig. 11, column 14, lines 10-64).

Regarding *claim 15*, Nakagawa discloses the apparatus discussed above in claim 14, and further teaches that the inside-apparatus management information storage means regularly stores maintenance management information (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding *claim 16*, Nakagawa discloses the apparatus discussed above in claim 14, and further teaches that the inside-apparatus management information storage means stores the apparatus management information relating to consumable goods (column 10, lines 5-24, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding *claim 17*, Nakagawa discloses the apparatus discussed above in claim 14, and further teaches that the inside-apparatus management information storage means stores the apparatus management information relating to the latest operating condition (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49).

Regarding *claim 18*, Nakagawa discloses the apparatus discussed above in claim 15, and further teaches that the inside-apparatus management information storage means stores the apparatus management information relating to consumable goods (column 10, lines 5-24, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding *claim 19*, Nakagawa discloses the apparatus discussed above in claim 15, and further teaches that the inside-apparatus management information storage means stores the apparatus management information relating to the latest operating condition (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49).

Regarding *claim 20*, Nakagawa discloses a management system comprising a plurality of electronic apparatuses (see Figs. 3 and 4), the electronic apparatus (host computer 40) including apparatus-side communication controlling means for communicating with either of portable terminals (portable device 30 that connects to copying machine 1, as seen in Figs. 3 and 4), the apparatus-side communication controlling means including inside-apparatus management information storage means for storing the apparatus management information of a main body of

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the electronic apparatus in plural levels (see Fig. 11, column 14, lines 10-64), identification information storage means for storing identification information to the identify the portable terminal of a communicating party (column 14, lines 10-45), apparatus-side controlling means for identifying the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information in the identification information storage means when a demand for the apparatus management information of the electronic apparatus from either of the portable terminals (column 14, lines 10-45), and for transmitting the apparatus management information of the level in accordance with the portable terminal from the inside-apparatus management information storage means (see Fig. 11, column 14, lines 10-64), an apparatus management center (CPU 41 of host computer 40) where management of the plurality of electronic apparatuses is performed synthetically (column 10, lines 5-38, and column 11, line 10-column 12, line 9), terminal-side communication controlling means (portable terminal 30), and a portable terminal having a display section (display part 34, see Fig. 3), the terminal-side communication controlling means, further including inherent information management means for storing identification information of the portable terminal (column 9, line 60-column 10, line 4), application means for storing application softs relating to acquisition of apparatus management information of the electronic apparatus and transmission to the apparatus management center (column 9, line 60-column 10, line 38), storage means for storing the apparatus management information transmitted from the electronic apparatuses, communication means for communicating (column 9, line 60-column 10, line 38), and terminal-side controlling means for communicating with either of the electronic apparatuses so as to acquire the apparatus management information (column 11, lines 10-49), displaying the apparatus management information that has been acquired on a display section (column 11, lines

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41-55, column 13, lines 7-50, and column 14, lines 10-64), storing the apparatus management information thus acquired in the storage means (column 11, lines 41-55, column 13, lines 7-50, and column 14, lines 10-64), and enabling to transmit the apparatus management information stored in the storage means to the apparatus management center (column 11, line 10-column 12, line 9).

Citation of Pertinent Prior Art

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Kodama (U.S. Patent Number 6,721,685) discloses a remote maintenance system; and

Ota *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication US2002/0053018) discloses a system that identifies a computer system based on an identifier comparison.

Conclusion

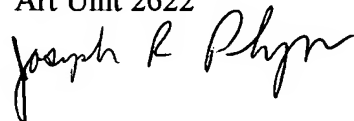
10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joe Pokrzywa whose telephone number is (571) 272-7410. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Joseph R. Pokrzywa
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2622



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